

## COLLOQUY

Webster's Dictionary defines colloquy as mutual discourse. Readers are encouraged to submit additions, corrections, and comments about earlier articles appearing in Word Ways. Comments received up to a month prior to publication of an issue will appear in that issue.

Several people responded to Michael J. Murphy's request to rearrange the letters of Carmilla Karnstein into another name or a meaningful phrase. We reproduce some of the more interesting attempts (even though it is most unlikely that author LeFanu had any of these transpositions in mind):

Dmitri Borgmann: "Larrikin" Castleman, Kristina Callerman, Alma Nina Strickler, Kirsten Alma Carlin, Kristin Lena Marcel, Carmen Lita Larkins

Murray Pearce: Ms. Katrina L. Carline, Scintillana Kramer, Carmallina Stinker, Allistair R. McKenna, neat criminal larks, rank criminal tales

Darryl Francis: Cristina Mark Allen, Kaitrin MacSnaller, Kristina L. MacLaren, Millicent Arkansar, trans-American kill

Catherine Rippin: Marcia Linn Stalker, Stella Marcia Krinn, Marci Stella Rankin, Erin Astra McKillan, Marian Estell Crank, Karen Lilacs Martin

The last two noted that the two given names Marcella and Kristina could be formed, with an N left over.

Subsequent correspondence with Mr. Murphy suggested that the transposition should be restricted to the first name, Carmilla: "...Mircalla seemed to be limited to a name which, if not her real one, should at least reproduce, without the addition or omission of a single letter, those, as we say, anagrammatically, which compose it. Carmilla did this; so did Millarca". Supposedly, Carmilla Karnstein (a vampire in LeFanu's 1872 novel) was in reality Mircalla, Countess Karnstein.

Dmitri Borgmann noted that Carmilla can also be anagrammed to the French surname Marillac (four are listed in Webster's Biographical Dictionary). He also discovered that Karnstein can be transposed to the phrase "an inkster", a scribbler or inferior writer. This word is cited in an 1860 OED quotation, the same time that LeFanu was active. Was this humorous self-deprecation on the part of LeFanu? Or was he perhaps referring to a deservedly-obscure writer named Marillac?

Several readers suggested -onym words to add to George Scheetz's "Onomasticon I" in the August Word Ways, but all are coinages not in general literary use:

Autantonym: a word having two opposing meanings, as a fast horse and a fast color (in Shipley, Playing With Words (1960), p. 74)

Ormonym: a verbal pair of charade sentences, as "some others I've seen" and "some mothers I've seen" (in Verbatim, Volume IV, Number 1, May 1977, p. 16)

Homoantonym: two words which are homonyms of antonyms, as knights (= nights) and daze (= days) (used by the National Puzzlers League)

Macronym: an acronym containing a word which is itself an acronym, as NADGE = NATO Air Defence Ground Establishment (by Darryl Francis in Word Ways November 1970, p. 235)

Robert Funt contributes a few more "Strange Paradoxes" in the style of J. Q. Xixx's February 1977 article (see also May 1977 Colloquy): "I could care less" has the same meaning as "I couldn't care less"; shameless behavior is shameful behavior; in baseball, a right-handed hitter who hits to the opposite field hits to right field.

The February 1977 Word Ways presented a five-word pangram in Webster's Second: PHLEGMS FYRD WUZ QVINT JACKBOX. Murray Pearce has discovered another, in the July 1, 1907 issue of the Ardmore Puzzler: QVONG SCHWYTZ BRAKED FLIX JUMP. The first word is a town in Jutland, in Ribe, listed on p. 416 of Cram's Atlas; the second word is an old spelling of a Swiss canton, in Lippincott's Gazetteer. Alas, neither of these spellings seems to have survived in more modern atlases. It is, however, interesting that people were solving difficult logological problems seventy years ago.

Discussing Fred Abrams' rearrangement of the words THE LADY, OR THE TIGER in Stockton's famous short story, George Grieshaber suggests that the missing H proves that Stockton was a Cockney at heart: TO THE RIGHT: LADY 'ERE. Dr. H. Schiff of Edmonton, Canada modifies the solution to include the punctuation symbols as well: LADY? E'ER TO THE RIGHT. Philip Cohen questions that Stockton ever had any hidden message in mind (has anyone ever demonstrated Stockton's addiction to wordplay?); no doubt many other "messages" could be constructed out of this set of letters.

Philip Cohen demolished the contention that the alphabet ring VGIQAO-JYUWLCDRHPMNZSBTXEFK contains no trigrams embedded in words in Webster's Second: how about tarIQAt and TraNZSchelia above the line, and TaVGI below? (The gazetteer yields three more counterexamples: BelGIQue, BanYUWangi, SeLEFKe.) Trouble is, the Air Force computer tape of Webster's Second omitted a lot of words in this dictionary, including the ones above.

In the May 1977 issue, George Grieshaber constructed four five-letter word squares in which the individual words can be read either in English or in German. He invited readers to construct additional bilingual squares out of a list of 1,300 words he had culled from various dictionaries. Master formist Palmer Peterson of Lennox, South Dakota came up with sixteen more:

B A S I S	T O A S T	F E H M E	M A T E R
A L A N T	O R D E R	E T U I S	A O R T A
S A U N A	A D R I A	H U N T S	T R I A S
I N N E R	S E I M S	M I T R A	E T A G E
S T A R T	T R A S S	E S S A Y	R A S E N

M U S E S	S P A T E	C O D E S	C A R T E
U Z A R A	P A I R S	O P E R A	A V E R S
S A L I T	A I D E S	D E B I T	R E H E S
E R I K A	T R E M A	E R I K A	T R E M A
S A T A N	E S S A Y	S A T A N	E S S A Y

S K A T E	B E R T A	D U R R A	B A N A L
K U L I S	E L I A S	U R I A S	A R E N A
A L I A S	R I P P S	R I P P S	N E I D S
T I A R A	T A P P E	R A P P E	A N D R E
E S S A Y	A S S E S	A S S E S	L A S E R

H U M A N	R O M A N	M A P P E	E S T E R
U Z A R A	O P E R A	A L O I S	S T O L A
M A K O S	M E T E S	P O I N T	T O T O S
A R O M A	A R E N A	P I N T E	E L O G E
N A S A L	N A S A L	E S T E R	R A S E N

With so many single squares, is a double square possible? Palmer is not too optimistic about finding one, as there aren't too many words beginning with vowels that are suitable.

Errata: Philip Cohen's table of common-gender pronouns should have also included shem, hes, hem (P. Silverman, 1974). On p. 152, change the probabilities to  $(.95)^{100}$  and 0.006.

A footnote from the New York Times Travel Section on R. Robinson Rowe's "Tudor Nomenclature" in the February 1977 issue: "When we stopped to eat at the Cow Palace (in White Sulphur Springs, Montana), the boy at the next table returned from the restroom to report: 'Mommy, one was marked "Bulls" and one was "Heifers," and I didn't know where to go!'"